Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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SECSTATE WASHDC 2049

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, ETRD, TU

SUBJECT: USDOC ANTI-BOYCOTT REGUALTIONS

1. MANAGER OF IZMIR BRANCH OF TURKISH FOREIGN TRADE BANK, WHICH IS TWENTY PERCENT OWNED BY BANK OF AMERICE, HAS REQUESTED CONGEN ASSISTANCE IN CLARIFYING LETTER OF CREDIT PROVISIONS OF ANTI-BOYCOTT REGULATIONS, THAT IS THE FINAL REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING TITLE II OF THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENTS OF 1977 ISSUED AND EFFECTIVE ON JAN. 18, 1978. ARTICLE IN FEB. 24 ISSUE OF COMMERCE AMERICA PROVIDES HELP-FUL GUIDELINES BUT LEAVES IMPORTANT QUESTION UNANSWERED.

PAGE 2 RUFLAEA4000 UNCLAS

2. SPECIFICALLY, LOCAL BRANCH OF IZMIR TRADE BANK IS UNCERTAIN OF IMPACT OF THE NEW REGULATIONS ON ITS POSITION AS NEGOTIATING BANK BETWEEN ISSUING BANKS IN ARAB COUNTRIES (BOTH AFFILIATED TO US BANKS AND NOT AFFILIATED WITH US BANKS) AND REIMBURSING US BANKS. TURKISH BANK IS CONCERNED THAT IT COULD SUFFER NON-PAYMENT BECAUSE OF BOY-COTT LANGUAGE IN LETTERS OF CREDIT WHICH BANKS IN ARAB COUNTRIES MIGHT SEND DIRECTLY TO US REIMBURSING BANKS. IT APPEARS THAT RELEVANT ISSUES MAY INCLUDE WHETHER THE BENE-UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 IZMIR 00113 231118Z

FICIARY IS A US PERSON AND WHETHER HIS ACTIVITY IS US COMMERVE.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING FULL TEXT OF THE NEW REGULATIONS AND RELEVANT, AUTHORITATIVE INTERPRETATION ON THE ISSUE IN QUESTION.

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